

Distinguished Members of the Environmental Committee:

I am writing in support of HB-05080, removing the ban on Sunday bow hunting in CT.

My reasoning for supporting this bill is as follows:

- This antiquated blue law seriously curtails hunting opportunity for those with regular 9-5 employment who would otherwise hunt on Sundays and help with our serious deer management situation.
- The passing on of hunting traditions to the next generation is of utmost importance and the Sunday ban effectively halves the time in which this activity can happen, due to school schedules.
- The troubling trend of some CT towns resorting to hiring professional sharpshooters to cull deer could be stopped by allowing Sunday hunting. This in my mind is a safety issue since a released arrow is far less likely to go astray than a bullet, regardless of the skill of the shooter. In addition it's an extremely expensive way of reducing deer numbers and therefore a waste of taxpayer's money.
- High deer population density greatly increases the transmittance of disease, not only Lyme Disease which affects humans and their pets but also Chronic Wasting Disease CWD, that luckily has not reached CT so far, which is the Deer equivalent of Mad Cow Disease.

Please defend not only hunter's and landowner's rights by supporting this bill, but also the balance of our State's environment.

Sincerely,

Gerard Cahalan

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